





hate of El Paso, of which we had a report in our last paper.

The following letter is published in the *St. Louis Union*:

INDEPENDENCE, Feb. 16, 1817.

Dear Sirs:—Today another company arrived from the plains, bringing Santa Fe dates at least.

The news you sent me yesterday is confirmed in every particular, and I enclose you an official report of the battle, printed in Santa Fe, and send me by friend.

Yours, &c., R.

On the 25th of December, 1816, the Mexican forces from the city of Chihuahua, about 1,000 in number, under command of Col. A. W. Denham, consisting of 600 men and 400 horses of his own troops, the 1st regiments of M. M. volunteers, 100 men of the 1st of 100 men from Santa Fe, under command or Lieut. Col. Mitchell, of the 2d regiment, consisting of 400 men from Mt. Clark, having light artillery, marched from Chihuahua to the post of Lt. Col. Krieken, and 70 men from Col. Price's regiment and Col. Willcox's battalions, 25 miles this side of El Paso.

The following is the substance of a letter from Col. Doniphan:

Col. D. states that he met the enemy and, after a hard fight, was able to take the El Paso fortifications, but that the enemy had been when his men were in great confusion, but they were called together immediately, and drawn up in line, and received three fire of grape, when, when the rebels were upon them, broke and, with great effect, and breaking the entire line of the fort. Capt. Reid made a gallant charge, after the first fire, with 16 men, and in his attack killed two of the enemies, and a load of powder and several horses and mules were captured. Most of the Mexicans who were killed were in the rear, an evident proof that our men shoot too low. The rebels, however, had here. There was only about twenty minutes to prepare, from the time the enemy were discovered.

Thomas Forsyth, who brought the corps, says that the Americans had a glorious Christ-mas frolic on the liquor, bread, and wine, which they captured.

#### LATER FROM THE ARMY.

The New Orleans papers have received news from Tampa to the 50th ultmo. Genl. Scott arrived there on the 19th. The city was full of excitement. A correspondent of the *Playboy*, a letter dated Tampa, February 18, says:

This afternoon the mail carrier from Vero Cruz arrived, bearing letters for foreign merchants in this city, which were the result of the capture of the Mexican forces at Vero Cruz by the rebels, and orders from Santa Anna to withdraw all the forces from that city, and march them into the interior. It is supposed by all now that Vero Cruz will be occupied by our troops, without a blow being struck.

From the *Advertiser* of Tampa for the 20th ultmo:

General Scott had declared martial law in every Mexican port occupied by the American armies.

Bronx from Tampa to the 23d have been received at New Orleans. Maj. Gen. Butler, disabled in his wounds received at Monterey, had retired to Washington. Gen. Worth, with all his troops, was about sailing for Monterey.

A attack was apprehended at Matamoras, and Col. D. was preparing every thing for successful resistance.

#### RESUMPTION IN MARYLAND.

The bill for resuming the payment of interest on the public debt of Maryland has become law. The Baltimore Clipper says: "We hope and trust that the estimate of \$1,500,000 will be sufficient to resume and continue payment of interest, will be found to be correct, and that old Maryland will never again be disgraced even by a temporary disregard of her pecuniary obligations."

#### THE HARBINGER—SLAVE CASE IN MARY- SHALL, MICH.—LIBERTY PAPERS—PEACE AND WAR.

AMHERST, Mass.—*It is of me, 1847.*

The above is copied from the *Harbinger*, the organ of the Association of Slaveholders. In their last paper they take exception to a paragraph in one of my late letters, in which I alluded to a remark of Lough Richmond, in relation to Robert Owen's establishment at Lancaster. This, our friends of the *Harbinger* remonstrated as of a strong and rigid old fanaticism, well enough in itself and its consequences.

And hence often changed with dealing in "cotton," but far be it from me to repeat what the remark of Lough Richmond, in relation to those who cannot comprehend their earnest enthusiasm, and who refuse to give the credit of their professions of entire faith in the "new and strange" theories of the French philosophers, I long since as I do their devotion, self-sacrifice, and warm sympathy with suffering humanity. I shall not take offence at their criticism. The remark of Lough Richmond, and certainly my endorsement of it, are to be understood in a general sense, as applicable to all schemes for the amelioration of the condition of society, which are not founded upon the pure principles of the gospel of Christ. I have no objection to any scheme against those who are so unmerciful as to hold slaves, to believe the divine origin of that gospel; I have on all occasions, and at some cost, vindicated their rights of free speech and fair hearing; and have at the risk of misapprehension and obloquy, rebuked the intolerance and bitter spirit of some of their assailants, who had undertaken to be God's avengers in the matter. Fully sympathizing with the free and hopeful spirit of a gage, a humble and patriotic party of that party of Reform and Progress, in the general cause of the great Free Party of the Future, I have given my hearty assent, and the confection of the change proposed, against me, of clinging to the "uttered remnants of a strong and rigid old fanaticism." I reverence what is good and true and heroic in the past; not because it is old, but because it brings with it the freshness and newness of an immortal life, and is not merely a part of the past, but of the present and future. And hence, while I agree with Miltont, in his terrible rebuke of those who "gave sentence against the verminous and polluted rags damped over us from the toiling shoulders of time, with which, as the world goes by, we must and will interlace the entire, the spotless, and underlying robe of Truth, the daughter of Time, that bears her name," I am constrained to believe with him, that that Truth which can alone cure the ills of humanity is "brought up between two grave and holy murses, the doctrine and practice of the gospel of Christ." If this is "fanaticism" and "cotton," I am content to bear the reproach of it, regretting only that I am not more worthy to do so.

The last number of the Newburyport Herald contains a letter from Hon. Robert Cress of Marlboro, a native, a resident in Amesbury. He writes a detailed account of the various efforts at attempt to repossess a family of slaves in that place. It seems that the family, consisting of a man, his wife, and four children, had lived in the village for about three years, had had a fair reputation for industry and sobriety. Four "hangers of Kentucky," headed by a lawyer belonging to Carroll county, in that State, attempted to break into the house of the fugitive family; whereupon, an alarm was raised, a black man was mounted on a horse, and sent through the town, ringing a bell, and calling on the people to come to the rescue of the family; and, in a brief space of time, the people were collected to the number of several hundred. The correspondents of the Herald, who was on the spot, says:

"The best-looking of the assailing party, who, as before appeared, was a lawyer by profession, and the grandson of the alleged owner of the slaves, was the author of the throng. . . . But he said it did not seem to meet the equities of the case, . . . . Fellow citizens said one of the men and his wife, and two of their children were taken for thousands. 'I move, as that the son of that meeting, that Croswell is a citizen of a free State, and, as such, he does not hold his master in slavery.' . . . 'I move, to sustain a man, who is also the son of that meeting, that he is a slave.'

We expect to have the legal disposition of the Black Law question in the Legislature. After several movements upon the subject, the House at last passed a bill, to submit the question of the repeal of the Black Law to the people at the spring election; and the Senate rejected it.

Whatever might have been the motives of the Senate, its action, in itself, is right. The Constitution makes it the duty of the Legislature to pass laws; and it has no right to throw off this responsibility.

It is easy to see that, so far from the *Evening Star* being up to the local papers, the more prominent of them are increasing their efficiency. We hope now that we shall find our position a little more comfortable than it has hitherto been.

men have been made to understand, that we shall not allow one of our members to be carried away, by any person or persons, or against his consent." At 12, he said this was gathered strength, and this year that same number of the *Evening Star* will be published.

In the mean time, Croswell, that fugitive, had obtained a warrant against the assailants for breaking open his door; and another elder man, Hackett, for an assault made upon him by the Kentuckians, with knife and revolting pistol. The Justice decided, that in Michigan every man was presumed to be free; and that his house was his unassailable castle, and therefore fined the defendants one hundred dollars and costs. They were compelled to pay the fine, and were sentenced to the penitentiary not less than five nor over twelve years.

Sec. 1, provides that any slave from the State, to enslave him, or aid or abet therein, shall pay a fine of not less than \$500, and be sentenced to the penitentiary for twenty-one years.

Sec. 2, inflicts the same penalty on any one who makes himself a slave, or aids and abets the making of a slave, or aids and abets the escape of a fugitive slave, or of persons of color, to avoid a fugitive slave.

Sec. 3, prohibits State judges, justices, administrators, and clerks, taking or collecting fees of fugitive slaves, or of persons of color, to avoid a fugitive slave.

Sec. 4, provides that persons causing, or violating of the peace, in recovering a fugitive, shall pay from \$100 to \$1,000, and be in jail three days.

Sec. 5—writs of habeas corpus are not prohibited.

Sec. 6—prohibits the use of jails, prisons, &c., for the confinement of fugitives, under penalty of \$500, and removal from office.

Sec. 7—repeals the law of 1780, which allows slaves to sue for their freedom.

Sec. 8—prohibits the sale of slaves.

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